GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2125
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2001
ACCIDENTS IN COAL MINES IN BIHAR AND JHARKHAND
LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether several accidents occurred in coal mines of Bihar and Jharkhand during the last two months;

(b) if so, the details thereof, mine-wise;

(c) whether in view of accidents happened in the past, a decision was taken to make proper arrangement to avoid such accidents in future; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL & MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a): There was only one fatal accident with one fatality in the mines of Coal India Limited in the State of Jharkhand in the last two months i.e. September and October, 2001.

(b): The accident took place at North Tisra Colliery of BCCLon 1-9-2001 where a Tripman, late Shri Prabhat Banerjee, was runover by a dumper on the overburden dump.

(c) & (d): Continuous efforts are being made by Coal India Limited to avoid accidents in coal mines.

Details of steps taken by Coal India Limited to prevent recurrence of past accidents are as under:-

(A) For underground mines:-

(i) Check correlation surveys in all identified mines having risk of inundation have been taken up to guard against inundation.

(ii) Connecting all mine plans to national grid - has almost been completed.

(iii) Wherever required the thickness of barrier between adjacent mines have been proved by positive methods like drilling.

(iv) Replacement of timber support by steel support in a phased manner.

(v) Support plan have been framed on the basis of Rock Mass Rating(RMR) study.

(vi) Hand held digital gas detectors in addition to flame safety lamps are being used for inflammable and noxious gases for regular monitoring of mine environment.

(vii) Continuous computerised Environmental Tele Monitoring Systems(ETMS)are being provided - 36 mines have been identified for this purpose; 7 such systems are in operation and 6 more systems are under procurement.

(viii) Deployment of more SDL/LHD and introduction of PSLW equipment to reduce exposure of workers to hazards.

(ix) Before every monsoon, danger of inundation from both surface and underground mines are examined for each mine and action plan drawn and implemented.

(x) Support personnel and other key personnel, such as supervisory staff are being given extensive job specific training.

(B) For opencast mines:

(i) Comprehensive action plan framed to reduce accidents in opencast mines & at surface.

(ii) Special drives for checking configuration of over burden and coal benches and O.B. dump slope stability.

(iii) Improvement in lighting.

(iv) Stress given on monitoring haul roads and prior checking of road worthiness of vehicles.

(v) Traffic rules framed and being enforced in opencast mines.

(vi) Rest shelters at conspicuous places have been set up.

(vii) Personnel like HEMM operators etc. are being given extensive job specific training.

(C) General

(i) Safety audits are being done regularly.

(ii) Thrust has been given on quality of inspections. Inspection by ISO have also been increased.

(iii) Workers involvement have been increased in safety through their participation in different fora and through training, publicity and propaganda and organising special safety drives.

(iv) CIL has established structured multi disciplinary Internal Safety Organisation(ISO) for monitoring safety status − both at subsidiary level and CIL Head Quarters.

(v) Programme has been taken up to provide Filter Self Rescuers (FSRs)to all workmen apart from personal protective equipment like shoes, helmets etc.